

Chief, Civilian Personnel Division

10 December 1946 25X1A9A

Assistant Chief, Finance Division

Your attention is invited to the provisions of Section 7, Public Law 600—70th Congress, which is effective 2 August 1946 and is quoted for your information as follows:

"Appropriations for the departments shall be available, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the President, for expenses of travel of new appointees, expenses of transportation of their immediate families and expenses of transportation of their household goods and personal effects from places of actual residence at time of appointment to places of employment outside continental United States, and for such expenses on return of employees from their post of duty outside continental United States to the places of their actual residence at time of assignment to duty outside the United States: Provided That such expenses shall not be allowed new appointees unless and until the person selected for appointment shall agree in writing to remain in the government service for the twelve months following his appointment, unless separated for reasons beyond his control. In case of a violation of such agreement any money expended by the United States on account of such travel and transportation shall be considered as a debt due by the individual concerned to the United States. This section shall not apply to appropriations for the Foreign Service, State Department." *(understanding supplied)*

It will be noted from the underlined portion of the above that expenses shall not be allowed new appointees covering movement from the United States to a foreign post until and unless the individual concerned has consented in writing to remain in the employment of the United States Government for a minimum period of one year. While the portion of the law referred to affects "new employees" only it appears that attention should be given to establishing a policy of requiring each individual who is to be dispatched abroad for permanent change of station to consent in writing to remain in the theater for a specified period of time. To permit compliance with the legal requirements and to enable accounts to be certified, an affirmative showing should be made preferably in the transfer letter stating that the individual agreed in writing to remain with the Government at the overseas post for a period of one year. The date that he executed such certification should likewise be set forth in the transfer letter and the statement should be retained in the employee personnel

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record in the event that it becomes necessary to make it available to the General Accounting Office for review.

It is understood that agency policy is soon to be released requiring that all personnel appointed for an overseas appointment be required to remain at such post of duty for a minimum period of 18 months, and consideration should be given to the administrative desires when the transfer letter is revised to incorporate the requirements of the Public Law.

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